

Message Text

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46

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /031 R

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APPROVED BY: S/S-O: R. KUCHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121823

EXDIS TOSEC 008

WHITE HOUSE PASS SALZBURG

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM SPRINGSTEEN

FOLL REPEAT STATE 121823 ACTION BEIRUT 08 JUN 74 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121823

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: #X-GDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, IZ

SUBJECT: US-IRAQI RELATIONS

REF: BAGHDAD 338

BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD

1. WE REGARD IRAQI INITIATIVE DESCRIBED PARA 3 REFTTEL AS
AN INTERESTING AND ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS FIRST
TIME WE CAN RECALL SINCE OPENING OF USINT BAGHDAD IN FALL
1972 (OR FOR THAT MATTER SINCE RUPTURE OF RELATIONS IN
1967) THAT IRAQIS HAVE TAKEN INITIATIVE TO RAISE SUBJECT
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OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH U.S. OR SPOKEN OF RELATIONS IN

EVEN MILDLY POSITIVE WAY.

2. DEPARTMENT OF COURSE WOULD WELCOME MOVEMENT BY IRAQ TOWARD IMPROVED RELATIONS. AS YOU TOLD MISS BAQR, WE WOULD BE READY TO DISCUSS RESUMPTION OF TIES ANY TIME GOI SO DESIRES, THE PACE TOWARDS RESUMPTION TO BE DETERMINED BY IRAQIS. AT THIS STAGE WE BELIEVE BEST TACTIC IS TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY AND LEAVE INITIATIVE WITH IRAQIS. SUM OF OUR PAST EXPERIENCE WITH CURRENT GOI IS THAT TOO FORWARD A USG POSITION TENDS TO FRIGHTEN IRAQIS OFF.

3. IN LINE WITH FOREGOING, YOU SHOULD TELL MISS BAQR THAT YOUR REPORT OF YOUR MEETING WITH HER AND HER REMARKS FROM

PREPARED POSITION PAPER HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF SENIOR LEVELS OF DEPARTMENT WHERE IT WAS RECEIVED WITH INTEREST. YOU SHOULD AT SAME TIME ASSURE MISS BAQR THAT USG HAS NO DESIRE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN KURDISH PROBLEM AND SINCERELY HOPES IT CAN BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY. RE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE, YOU SHOULD SAY USG HAS GIVEN AMPLE DEMONSTRATION OF DEPTH AND SINCERITY OF ITS COMMITMENT TO BRINGING ABOUT PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF TRAGIC CONFLICT WHICH HAS BEEN SO COSTLY TO PEOPLE OF MIDDLE EAST. USG INTENDS TO PURSUE ITS EFFORTS AND WOULD HOPE TO HAVE UNDERSTANDING OF IRAQ AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES OF AREA.

4. DEPARTMENT WILL BE SENDING YOU INFORMATION FOR YOUR BACKGROUND REGARDING CONFISCATED EMBASSY PROPERTY AND DOLS 2 MILLION IN FROZEN IRAQI MILITARY PURCHASE FUNDS WHICH USG HAS HELD SINCE 1967, WHICH ARE TWO MAIN OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN USG AND GOI. HOWEVER, BOTH PROBLEMS ARE COMPLEX AND IF IRAQIS RAISE THEM WE WOULD WANT YOU TO LIMIT YOURSELF TO SAYING THAT WE WOULD BE READY TO DISCUSS THEM, WITH A VIEW TO REACHING A MUTUALLY AGREED SOLUTION, AT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE TIME. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE121823
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: R. KUCHEL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740147-1137
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740662/aaaacazn.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: BAGHDAD 338
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-IRAQI RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, IZ, US
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005